

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ACDA-05 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9070

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, PL, UR, XH

SUBJECT: SPECIAL NOVOSTI ARTICLE ASSERTS RESERVATIONS ON
DETENTE

REF: WARSAW 8038 NOTAL

1. WARSAW'S LEADING DAILY, ZYCIE WARSZAWY, ON DECEMBER
23 PUBLISHED A SPECIAL COMMENTARY SIGNED BY NOVOSTI
CORRESPONDENT OLEG STROGANOV CONCERNING SECURITY, DIS-
ARAGEMENT, AND POLITICAL TASKS OF THE WARSAW PACT. THE
ARTICLE SEEMS TO POSTULATE A RESERVATION CONCERNING DE-
TENTE AND TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN EUROPE AND OTHER AREAS
REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CSCE PRINCIPLES.

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2. GOING OVER SOME OLD GROUND, THE ARTICLE IS GENERALLY UPBEAT ON DETENTE, OBSERVING THAT AT THEIR RECENT MEETING IN WARSAW (REFTEL), COMMUNIST LEADERS HADN CONCLUDED THAT DETENTE IS A PERMANENT FEATURE, DESPITE THE CURRENT DIVERSITY AND COMPLEXITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL LANDSCAPE. THE ARTICLE CITED BREZHNEV'S CONTENTION IN HIS SPEECH TO THE POLISH PARTY CONGRESS ABOUT THE NECESSITY OF TREATING THE CSCE FINAL ACT AS AN INDIVISIBLE ENTIRETY AND REITERATED THE WARSAW

PACT FOREIGN MINISTERS' APPEAL FOR PROGRESS AT THE MBFR TALKS AND IN THE GENERAL AREA OF ARMS REDUCTIONS, ISSUED FOLLOWING THEIR RECENT MEETING IN MOSCOW.

3. TURNING TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS' STATEMENTS ABOUT THE SITUATIONS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND ANGOLA, THE ARTICLE NOTED THAT THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES AND OTHER PEACEFUL FORCES IN EUROPE NEVER LIMIT THEMSELVES TO A "NARROWLY CONCEIVED "EUROCENTRISM" THE SOVIET DELEGATION AT THE RECENT PREPARATORY TALKS FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONFERENCE (ECPC) HAD EMPHASIZED THIS POINT "ONCE AGAIN," ACCORDING THE THE ARTICLE. IN CONCLUSION, STROGANOV WRITES THAT IT IS DIFFICULT ZW IMAGINE A SITUATION IN WHICH DETENTE WOULD EMBRACE ONLY CERTAIN CONTINENTS WHILE TENSIONS ARE "SHIFTED" TO OTHER REGIONS.

4. COMMENT: THIS NOVOSTI ARTICLE SEEMS TO BE ANOTHER CONSCIOUS EXPRESSION BY THE SOVIETS OF A RIGH TO EXTEND "SOCIALIST ASSISTANCE" TO ANY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF DETENTE. ITS POINTED DENIAL OF "EUROCENTRISM" EFFECTIVELY SERVES NOTICE THAT THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES WILL NOT BE BOUND BY CSCE PRINCIPLES OUTSIDE EUROPE. ITS REFERENCE TO ECPC PREPARATIONS WITHIN THIS CONTEXT ALSO SUGGESTS AN EFFORT TO REINFORCE MOSCOW'S CONTENTION THAT AN EVENTUAL ECPC CANNOT LIMIT ITS DISCUSSIONS TO CSCE AND EUROPEAN PROBLEMS. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THIS VOERALL MESSAGE HAS APPEARED IN THE POLISH PRESS. IT MAY BE DESIGNED TO INSTRUCT POLISH READERS ABOUT THE HARD REALITIES OF THE POST-HELSINKI PERIOD AND THE RELATED RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SOVIET UNION -- AND ITS WARSAW PACT PARTNERS, INCLUDING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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POLAND.
DAVIES

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NNN

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